

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of William Johnson S7088

f7NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

10/27/08: rev'd 2/21/16

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Where the meaning is not compromised by adhering to the spelling, punctuation or grammar, no change has been made. Corrections or additional notes have been inserted within brackets or footnotes. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. A bracketed question mark indicates that the word or words preceding it represent(s) a guess by me. The word 'illegible' or 'indecipherable' appearing in brackets indicates that at the time I made the transcription, I was unable to decipher the word or phrase in question. Only materials pertinent to the military service of the veteran and to contemporary events have been transcribed. Affidavits that provide additional information on these events are included and genealogical information is abstracted, while standard, 'boilerplate' affidavits and attestations related solely to the application, and later nineteenth and twentieth century research requests for information have been omitted. I use speech recognition software to make all my transcriptions. Such software misinterprets my southern accent with unfortunate regularity and my poor proofreading skills fail to catch all misinterpretations. Also, dates or numbers which the software treats as numerals rather than words are not corrected: for example, the software transcribes "the eighth of June one thousand eighty six" as "the 8th of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention.]

[p 4]

State of South Carolina, Marlborough District

On this the thirteenth day of March in the year of our Lord 1834 personally appeared in open Court, before the Court of Common Pleas and Sessions for the District & State aforesaid, now sitting, William Johnson a resident of the District of Marlborough in State aforesaid aged seventy-five years on the 31st day of January 1833 who being duly sworn according to Law, doth on his oath make the following Declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed June 7th, 1832.

That he was born on the 31st day of January 1758. That he has no documentary evidence of his Services in the revolutionary war, that he had discharges & written evidence, but from the great lapse of time he has lost & had them destroyed, not having taken particular care of them and that he is therefore unable to be so precise in his statement as to dates as he otherwise would be -- but that early in the year 1776 at which time he resided in Wayne County North Carolina, he volunteered his services and marched under one Captain Williams [Thomas Williams] in a detachment from said Wayne County, to Moore's Creek, [February 27, 1776] ¹ within 15 or 20 miles of Wilmington North Carolina where the said detachment was put under the command of Colonel Caswell [Richard Caswell] who had fortifications on the North side of said Creek at the end of the bridge to oppose the passage of a large body of Tories commanded by one Colonel McDonald [Donald McDonald] that a short time after this deponent arrived at the said Bridge the Tories attempted to cross but that Colonel Caswell then ordered the planks of the bridge to be taken up & had it so impaired that they could not cross, & that in attempting to do so, several of the Tories were killed by Colonel Caswell's forces. That he this deponent knows no particulars persons names of the Tories that were killed except a Captain McLeod who was shot at the Bridge. That this deponent & all others who had volunteered for that excursion were then discharged & this deponent returned home. That he was out at that time, about a month, but only qualifies positively to three weeks. That afterwards either in the latter part of the winter or early in the spring 1777 -- he was drafted in the said Wayne County North Carolina for the Term of three months & went to Wilmington North Carolina with other the Militia of Wayne County & served & served three months at Wilmington in the Company of one Captain Jacob Hooks, that he does not now recollect the names of any others of the officers. That the said service at Wilmington was in guarding the Town, but that there was no fight or engagement there during

¹ http://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_moores_creek.html

the time he was there, & that he afterwards returned home. Said deponent further states that sometime afterwards he removed to Johnson County North Carolina [sic, Johnston County] & that in the latter part of the year 1778 he was drafted in Johnston County for the Term of five months and marched under one Captain Goodman [William Goodman] with others the militia of Johnston County to Hillsboro in North Carolina & was stationed there a short time & then marched through North Carolina & South Carolina to the Savannah River nearly opposite to the Town of Augusta & was stationed there some time guarding some Hessians who had been captured by the Americans and were confined in strong log buildings. That he then crossed the Savannah River and was associated with other American forces who were stationed at Brier Creek [Briar Creek, March 3, 1779]² in Georgia under the command of General Ash [sic, John Ashe] that a short time after he arrived there they were surprised by the British and driven in great confusion from their Station that a considerable number of the Americans were killed in the flight, & a number drowned in crossing the River. He does not now recollect the names of any other of his officers save Captain Goodman & General Ashe, and that he cannot qualify as to the name of the British commander. That such of the Americans as crossed the River rendezvoused on the North side of the River at Black Swamp & were there stationed some days under General Ashe & at the expiration of the Term, five months, for which he had been drafted he this deponent was discharged & that he recollects his discharge was on the 10th day of April 1779 -- & that he then returned home. Said Deponent further states that afterwards in the year 1782 he was drafted again in Johnston County North Carolina for the Term of three months & that he then employed a substitute by the name of Uriah Peacock who was accepted as such by one Colonel Smith, & that he gave the said Peacock a mare valued at \$100 -- & a young horse at \$35 or \$40 -- & some cattle for his services that the said Peacock marched off as his substitute but he cannot say under what officers & where he went to & that Peace was not long afterwards declared -- & Peacock returned home before the three months expired -- said Deponent further states that he afterwards resided in said Johnston County until the year 1813 when he removed to Marlborough District South Carolina -- where he has ever since resided & oath which he is now a citizen & resident. Said deponent states that he served himself eight months and three weeks, as above -- & that he employed a substitute the said Peacock for three months as above -- but does not recollect how long the said Peacock actually served -- & that he knows of no one by whom he can prove his service.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declares that his name is not on the pension Roll of the Agency of any State.

Sworn to & subscribed the day & year above written.

S/ Geo. Bristow, C.C.C.pls.

S/ William Johnson, J his mark

[Charles Manship, a clergyman, and Isaiah Weatherly gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$29 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 8 months in 21 days in the North Carolina militia.]

² www.georgiasocietysar.org/revtrail/pdf/brochure_briercreek.pdf